Listing of the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

1-19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended): A method for detecting ~~the presence of a CCRG nucleic acid or polypeptide~~ a cancer cell in a biological sample comprising the steps of:

(a) providing ~~the~~ a biological sample; and

(b) detecting the presence of ~~the~~ a CCRG nucleic acid ~~or polypeptide~~ sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6 at least 20 residues in length in the biological sample, wherein an increase in the level of the CCRG nucleic acid in the biological sample as compared to the level in a normal control sample indicates that the sample contains a cancer cell.

21. (canceled)

22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended): The method of claim 20, wherein the biological sample ~~is~~ comprises a cell derived from a colon.

24. (previously presented): The method of claim 23, wherein said colon is a human colon.

25. (previously presented): The method of claim 20, wherein the biological sample is feces or urine.

26. (previously presented): The method of claim 20, wherein the biological sample is selected from the group consisting of blood, plasma, and serum.

27-39. (canceled)

40. (new): The method of claim 20, wherein the step (b) of detecting the presence of the CCRG nucleic acid sequence in a biological sample comprises:

contacting the biological sample with a probe that hybridizes under stringent conditions to the CCRG nucleic acid sequence; and

detecting hybridization of the probe to the biological sample.

41. (new): The method of claim 20, wherein the probe comprises an oligonucleotide with a detectable label, the oligonucleotide being at least 15 nucleotides in length and hybridizing under high stringency conditions to a nucleotide sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6 or to a nucleotide sequence that is a complement of a nucleotide sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6.

42. (new): The method of claim 41, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

43. (new): The method of claim 20, wherein the step (b) of detecting the presence of the CCRG nucleic acid sequence in a biological sample comprises:

isolating RNA from the biological sample;

generating cDNAs from the isolated RNA;

contacting said cDNAs with a first oligonucleotide that hybridizes to a first portion of a CCRG nucleic acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6 or to a nucleic acid sequence that is a complement of said first portion of a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6, and with a second oligonucleotide that hybridizes to a second portion of said CCRG nucleic acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6 or to a nucleic acid sequence that is a complement of said second portion of a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6 to form a mixture;

subjecting the mixture to polymerase chain reaction to generate amplification products; and

analyzing said amplification products.

44. (new): The method of claim 43, wherein said first oligonucleotide and said second oligonucleotide amplify a 455 bp fragment of a CCGR nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

45. (new): The method of claim 44, wherein said first oligonucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and said second oligonucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

46. (new): The method of claim 43, wherein said first oligonucleotide and said second oligonucleotide amplify a 267 bp fragment of a CCGR nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

47. (new): The method of claim 46, wherein said first oligonucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:9 and said second oligonucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:10.

48. (new): A composition comprising a combination of oligonucleotides for amplifying in an in vitro amplification reaction a CCRG nucleic acid sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6 at least 20 residues in length, wherein the composition comprises:

at least a first oligonucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO:9; and

at least one second oligonucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:10.

49. (new): A kit for detecting a CCRG nucleic acid sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6 at least 20 residues in length, the kit comprising the composition of claim 48.

50. (new): A composition comprising an oligonucleotide with a detectable label, the oligonucleotide being at least 15 nucleotides in length and hybridizing under high stringency conditions to a CCRG nucleic acid sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6 at least 20 residues in length, or to a complement of a CCRG nucleic acid sequence that comprises SEQ ID NO:6 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:6 at least 20 residues in length.

51. (new): The composition of claim 50, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

52. (new): A kit comprising the composition of claim 50.